

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear Not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June 1, 1866.

CONSOLIDATED AUG. 2, 1881.

Sumter, S. C., Saturday, February 11, 1922

VOL. LII. NO. 52

ASSEMBLY DISCUSSES TAX REVENUE

Levy on Luxuries and on Incomes Chief Bones of Contention, It Seems

Columbia, Feb. 6.—This week will mark the crest of the tide of debate in the general assembly, for when recess comes next Friday, a definite ideal will probably have been reached as to what new revenue legislation is to be turned out by the house and the senate.

Practically all the proposed revenue measures are on some status in the legislature and this week will either mark their defeat or their acceptance in some form.

The gasoline and the inheritance tax bills have been passed by both houses, and they are now in the senate for consideration of the senate amendments. The major change in the gasoline measure as it was passed by the house, is the increase of the tax on gasoline from one to two cents a gallon and the elimination of all petroleum by products from the bill. The revenue is to be divided equally, one-half to go into the state treasury for general state purposes and the other half to be prorated among the counties for highway construction and maintenance. The principal senate amendment to the inheritance tax bill made by the senate was the deletion of the retroactive feature of it.

The corporation license tax bill, increasing licenses on corporations from one-half mill to one mill on each dollar of capital invested, will come up for debate in the senate Tuesday night. The upper body by the narrow margin of one vote, refused to strike out the enacting words of the measure Friday and then adjourned debate.

The bill, which probably will take up most of the time of the senate this week, is the income tax bill. While a measure of this character undoubtedly will be passed, yet it is not probable that it will receive the approval of the senate in the form in which it was reported from the house. The senate finance committee contemplates reporting this bill Tuesday night.

The hydro-electric tax bill, which already has passed the house, is with the senate finance committee and it probably will be reported during the week.

The timber tax bill was withdrawn from the files of the senate last week.

Other important legislation to come up in the senate is the bill to increase the number of elective trustees of the University of South Carolina from seven to twenty-one members. This bill passed the house last year, it will receive opposition in the senate when it comes under debate. Another measure of interest is the Christensen resolution to amend the constitution so as to place more latitude with the general assembly in regulating the fiscal affairs of the state and doing away with the three-mill constitutional school tax.

There apparently will be no fight in the senate this year on the state tax commission, for the measure abolishing that body and devolving its duties on the state board of assessors, introduced by Senator Cresson, of Lexington, was withdrawn by its author last week.

The principal revenue measure to come to the attention of the house this week is the luxuries tax bill which has been reported from the ways and means committee. Already a number of amendments have been placed on the desk of the speaker to be voted on when the bill comes under debate.

The bill providing a tax on pool rooms has not been reported from the ways and means committee yet.

The house last week passed the Hamilton-Blease substitute bill providing for 55-hour weeks for textile operatives, and which undoubtedly will receive strong opposition in the senate. The Gerald bill providing for compulsory arbitration of disputes between the management of the Columbia Railway, Gas & Electric Company, has been sent to the senate, as has the Foster bill requiring the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph company to reduce its service rates to what they were before January 1, 1922, when a 20 per centum increase allowed by the State Railroad Commission went into effect.

The house is in possession of the Miller bill increasing the personnel of the state railroad commission from three to seven members, one from each congressional district, to be elected by the general assembly, instead of by the people. The present commissioners, with Frank W. Shealy as chairman, will remain in office until their terms of office expire. There will be a hard fight to defeat the bill in the house, but if it passes, it will not be in its present form, so members of the house say.

The Wells resolution for the extension of the time for the payment of taxes has passed the house with amendments and goes to the senate for concurrence.

The house will meet tomorrow at noon and the senate will convene at 8:15 o'clock tomorrow night.

There's a difference in "Kiss and make up" and "Kiss the make-up."

SUMTER CO. SUPPLY BILL FOR THIS YEAR

A Levy of Eight Mills Will Be Required to Pay Operating Expenses of County

Columbia, Feb. 9.—The Sumter county supply bill, calling for few changes in county expenses as compared with last year and for a levy of eight mills for ordinary county purposes, was introduced in the house of representatives today.

The only changes from the last year are as follows: A re-creation of \$600 in the appropriation for rural policemen. The bill provides for four rural policemen, each to receive ten per cent less pay than last year. The item for this is \$5,400, as compared with \$6,000 last year.

The addition of a new magistrate at Pinewood, in the eighth magisterial district, at a salary of \$240, with the addition of a constable for same district, at \$200.

The bill in full follows: Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of South Carolina:

Section 1. That a tax of eight mills is hereby levied upon all taxable property in the county of Sumter, state of South Carolina, for county purposes for the fiscal year commencing January 1st, 1922, for all county purposes including sinking fund hereinafter provided, to be expended as follows, if so much be necessary:

Item 1—For roads and bridges (chain gang and road equipment), \$50,000.

Item 2—Public buildings, including water, lights, fuel, insurance and postage, \$2,000.

Item 3—Public buildings, furniture and fixtures, \$400.

Item 4—Jail expense (dieting prisoners), \$1,000.

Item 5—County home, poorhouse and poor, \$5,000.

Item 6—Repairs to poorhouse building, \$900.

Item 7—Court expenses, \$8,000.

Item 8—For Camp Alice Tubercular camp, for maintenance, and other purposes as may be authorized by the board of trustees, \$3,600.

(This expenditure to be under the supervision of the county board, and only upon the county board's approval.)

Item 9—For sinking fund and interest on bonds, one-fourth mill (about \$2,350.00).

Item 10—Clerk of court, \$100.

Item 11—Sheriff, \$2,000.00.

Item 12—Treasurer, \$750.

Item 13—Clerk and treasurer, \$500.

Item 14—Auditor, \$750.

Item 15—Clerk to auditor, \$300.

Item 16—Superintendent of education, \$1,600.

Item 17—County attorney, \$240.

Item 18—Coroner, \$500.

Item 19—Janitor, \$420.

Item 20—Four rural police, \$5,400.

Item 21—Five commissioners, \$900.

Item 22—Clerk to board, \$1,800.

BURNING OF TRANSPORT UNEXPLAINED

Captain of Northern Pacific Refuses To Talk — Foul Play Suspected

Newport News, Feb. 9.—Capt. William List, master of the transport Northern Pacific, which was destroyed by fire off Delaware breakwater, refused to make a statement regarding the disaster which is believed to have cost the lives of four employees of Sun Ship yards.

Captain Seth Case, master of the steamship Transportation, which docked here with twenty-two survivors, said that when he first sighted the Northern Pacific it was burning from end to end, in a rough sea. He picked up the men in life boats. Five others were rescued by the steamship Wylie. The men believed to be lost were sleeping near where the fire of undetermined origin started. The survivors suspect foul play.

Tax Bills Have Right of Way

Legislature Decides to Double License Tax on Corporations—Income Tax Bill to Third Reading

Columbia, Feb. 9.—The senate today sent the corporation tax bill to the house, providing for an increase of license fees from one-half to one mill of each dollar of the capital stock.

The senate also advanced the two income tax bills to third reading after some debate, with the understanding that the bills will be discussed there. It is understood that an effort will be made Friday to have the bills committed to the judiciary committee.

The senate also decided to give revenue measures priority over bills on the calendar, the only exception being made for local measures.

NAVAL PLANT CLOSES DOWN

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 9.—The naval ordnance plant here was ordered closed down by Naval Secretary Denby and employees laid off without pay until June 29th.

COLUMBIA PHONOGRAPH COMPANY INSOLVENT

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 9.—The Columbia Graphophone Manufacturing company has applied for receivership in the federal district court, claiming insolvency.

road bonds issued under the act of 1920, the treasurer of Sumter county is authorized and directed to set aside the interest obtained from banks on funds arising from the sale of said bonds while on deposit with said banks: And from the special road levy funds arising from the seven (7) mill levy of 1920 he shall set aside the balance of the amount necessary to pay said interest and provide said sinking fund; the amount of said sinking fund to be such an amount as set aside annually at five per cent (5) interest compounded annually will provide funds sufficient to meet outstanding bonds issued under said act of 1920 as same matures. The remainder of said special seven (7) mill levy he shall hold in bank at best interest rate obtainable subject to the further direction of the general assembly.

Section 2.—The above accounts shall be kept separate and expended only for the purpose for which appropriated; and the said county board of commissioners shall not expend or contract to expend under any general item any sum greater than the amount for such general item herein appropriated, except as hereinafter provided; and no account against the county shall be approved or paid except as properly authorized expenditure by the county board upon an itemized and sworn statement of the amount being filed and kept on file.

Section 3.—In anticipation of the tax herein levied the county board of commissioners is authorized to borrow such sum or sums as may be necessary not exceeding the revenue arising hereunder at the best attainable rate of interest and retire any loan so made from the revenue herein provided as the same may become available.

Section 4.—The county commissioners are authorized to determine the repairs necessary to the court house building and to have said repairs made, and for that purpose are authorized and empowered to borrow such amounts as may be necessary to meet the expenses thereof.

Section 5.—The county board of commissioners are authorized to apply and unexpended balances from amounts herein appropriated for the various items, to supplement the appropriation for roads and bridges.

Section 7.—This act shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the governor.

COLUMBIA LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Rep. Hughes Changes Plans in Fight on State Highway Department

Columbia, Feb. 7.—Representative E. T. Hughes, who will initiate a fight on the state highway department in the house this year, is quoted today, following the announcement of the resignation of Charles H. Moorefield, chief engineer of the department, that he will withdraw his bill to abolish the highway commission and substitute for it a bill to be introduced by Representative Claude N. Sapp, of Columbia, to provide for the election of the member of the state highway commission by the legislative delegation in the various congressional districts, one commissioner for each district. Mr. Sapp's bill would provide that the present commissioners shall hold office until their terms expire. He would also abolish the office of secretary of the highway department.

Freezing in Florida

Cold Wave Extends into the Far South

Washington, Feb. 8.—The weather bureau reported temperatures below freezing as far south as Florida. Frosts are predicted over the entire south tonight.

HOTEL GUESTS PERISH IN RICHMOND

Big Lexington Hotel Burned Last Night. Twenty-Seven Are Missing, Four Dead, Many Injured

Richmond, Va., Feb. 7.—There are four known dead and a number of injured in a fire which destroyed the Lexington Hotel and five adjoining buildings at Twelfth and Main streets last night. The dead are Sheriff C. N. Thomas, of Albemarle county; Hiram E. Austin, of Finesteele, Va.; M. J. Fox, of Williamsport, Pa. There were sixty-seven guests in the hotel when the fire started. There were twenty-seven missing at 8:30 this morning. The police believe the death toll will reach fifteen to twenty.

Query Heads Tax Commission

Spartanburg Member Elected Chairman to Succeed A. W. Jones

Columbia, Feb. 8.—The state tax commission Tuesday elected W. G. Query, of Welford, in Spartanburg county, as chairman, succeeding in that office Hon. A. W. Jones, of Columbia, formerly of Abbeville. Mr. Query was elected chairman by the commission, both the other members voting for Mr. Query.

Governor Cooper recently appointed J. Fraser Lyon, of Columbia, as member of the commission, when it was announced that A. W. Jones would not offer for re-appointment to the commission. The election of the chairman of the commission is, under the law, in the hands of the commission itself. The commission held a formal meeting Tuesday afternoon, when Mr. Query was elected.

Mr. Query is a merchant. He has been one of the leading tax authorities in the state for a number of years. He is held in high esteem by all who know him and is regarded as one of the best men of the state. J. D. Derham, of Henry county, also a tax authority and himself a prominent planter, is the third member of the commission. Mr. Lyon is a lawyer.

Two Negro Ex-Soldiers Testify

Tell of Negroes Shot and Hung in France For Minor Offenses

Washington, Feb. 8.—W. L. Davis, of Savannah, a negro, testifying before the senate committee, said William Faust-roy, a negro corporal, was shot and killed by a marine guard taking him to St. Nazaire prison for being drunk. He said the guards chained Faust-roy and attacked him. Phillip Bell, of Memphis, a negro, said he saw a negro lynched in France because white soldiers resented his associations with a French girl.

Pope Admires American People

Expresses Interest in Results of Washington Conference

Rome, Feb. 8.—Pope Pius expressed unbounded admiration for the American people and a deep interest in the work of the Washington conference at the reception of Cardinal O'Connell of Boston.

SEC. WEEKS DISCREDITS HENRY FORD

Secretary of War Says Ford is Groping in the Dark Regarding Fertilizer Manufacture

Washington, Feb. 8.—Secretary Weeks, appearing before the house military committee that is considering Henry Ford's Muscle Shoals proposition, said he expected to submit two other offers before the end of the month. He said he believed Ford, in groping in dark regarding fertilizer manufacture and a forfeit should be required.

A BLEASE CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

Both Cole L. Blease and Eugene S. Have the Bee in the Bonnet

Columbia, Feb. 8.—A new development in state politics is being discussed in Columbia as a possibility, and it is being given much weight. It is in connection with the race for the office of governor this summer. It is being talked that Representative Eugene S. Blease, of Newberry, may run for governor, and Mr. Blease doesn't deny the report. When asked by this correspondent what his political aims were, Mr. Blease stated that he does not know at this time, but when asked if he would run for governor, he stated that this might be his course.

Asked if he would run for governor if his brother, former Governor Cole L. Blease, runs, Representative Blease replied emphatically that he would not.

The former governor has announced that he will run. Eugene S. Blease has indicated that he will consider the race, and it is now believed that the former governor will step out of the way in favor of his brother, the Newberry representative.

Camden Boy Killed

Man Said to Have Fired Fatal Shot From Pistol Through Accident

Camden, Feb. 7.—Lewis Massabeau, a young white boy about 15 years of age, was shot and instantly killed here this afternoon about 6 o'clock. The bullet from a pistol was fired by Dexter Hurst, a white man about 20 years of age. The tragedy occurred in the store of S. D. Hurst, father of Dexter Hurst, on lower York street.

The ball struck the young boy between the eyes, penetrating his brain and causing instant death.

Hurst claims that the shooting was an accident while he was fooling with a pistol. Hurst was placed in jail awaiting the verdict of a coroner's inquest which will be held Wednesday morning.

There are said to have been two eye witnesses to the affair, one a negro man and another a white boy by the name of Dunlap.

Explosion Wrecks Baltimore Buildings

Believed to Have Killed in an Explosion of Unknown Origin Which Wrecked Three Buildings in South Broadway

Baltimore, Feb. 8.—Two men are believed to have been killed in an explosion of unknown origin which wrecked three buildings in South Broadway.

Orlando To Form Ministry

London, Feb. 8.—Former Premier Orlando, of Italy, has accepted the invitation of King Victor Emmanuel to form a new cabinet according to an exchange of telegraph dispatch.

Irish Leaders Kidnapped

Believed to Have Been Taken to a Safe in the Mountains

Belfast, Feb. 8.—A large number of the leading unionists in the Ulster area have been kidnapped from their homes and taken to unknown destinations. There have been fifteen arrests.

MORE POLITICS IN HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Fight on State Highway Commission Resulting From Mars Bluff Bridge Dispute Goes Merrily On

Columbia, Feb. 8.—Representatives E. T. Hughes, of Marion, and Edgar A. Brown, of Barnwell, issued a statement last night regarding the state highway legislation pending in the legislature, and following the publication in the afternoon press of Tuesday to the effect that Messrs. Hughes and Brown would withdraw the bill introduced by them to abolish the highway commission and create a department of one commissioner. The statement follows:

"We have not withdrawn our bill. We are willing to be fair and have agreed to certain amendments that Mr. Sapp desires to offer to our bill. This bill has not made a fight on Moorefield. If he has been made the 'goat,' it is possible that such has been done by others higher up. Our bill was introduced in the house after announcement by one of the authors that it would be introduced, and has been held in committee for more than a week, to give all parties interested a hearing. Rumor had it that our bill did not meet federal aid requirements. We put no faith in this. This defect in our bill was called for from the federal authorities, but was not forthcoming."

In speaking of the highway legislation, Representative Sapp stated that he would introduce a bill providing that the highway commission of seven members, one from each congressional district, be elected by the legislature, the county delegations in each congressional district electing the commissioner from their district. Mr. Sapp stated that Mr. Hughes had agreed to allow his bill to serve as an amendment to the Hughes-Brown bill, the Sapp plan thereby taking the place of the original Hughes plan for a one-man commission.

These developments followed the resignation of Chas. H. Moorefield, chief engineer of the state highway, and it is understood that in legislative conference rooms the resignation of Mr. Moorefield was discussed as a possible solution of the highway controversy, between the highway commission and certain Marion county citizens regarding the Pee Dee bridge location at Mars bluff.

The compromise bill will be introduced in the house within a few days, it is understood, and will likely become law. It meets with the approval of many leading members of the house and senate. It would abolish the office of secretary of the commission, as recommended by the committee on consolidation and economy, which reported early in the session. It would provide for the election of the commissioners by the legislature instead of their being appointed by the governor. It would make other minor changes in the law also, without affecting the usefulness of the department.

Steamer Wrecked On Cape Cod

Coast Guard Men Trying To Rescue Crew of Fifty

Highland Light, Mass., Feb. 8.—The freighter Thistle-moore is being battered to pieces on Cape Cod beach with the crew endangered. The coast guard have rigged the breeches buoy to rescue the fifty men comprising the crew.

Preparing For Strike

221,000 Textile Operatives May Be Affected

Lowiston, Me., Feb. 7.—Preparations for a strike next Monday in Maine cotton mills in opposition to a 20 per cent wage reduction announced by manufacturers last week, were begun today as a result of orders from headquarters of the American Federation of Textile Operatives. These orders, addressed to State Organizer Louis Langlois here, and to unions in Brunswick and Augusta, direct centers employing 221,000 operatives. The orders directed open mass meetings in preparation for the strike.

British Exchange Up

London Demand Bills Reach Higher Level

New York, Feb. 7.—British exchange resumed its upward course here today, London demand bills mounting to \$124 3/4. The movement was marked by only a slight reaction.

Plan Stern Measures

To Quell Disturbances in India

London, Feb. 7.—The India office issued an official communication this evening indicating that it was the intention of the government to adopt stern measures to suppress the campaign of civil disobedience in India. It adds that no government could discuss the demands contained by the recent manifesto of Mahatma K. Gandhi, the Indian Nationalist leader.

SENATE AND HOUSE DISAGREE ON TAX BILLS

Gasoline and Inheritance Tax Bills Go to Free Conference Committee

Columbia, Feb. 8.—The house of representatives last night refused to agree to the senate's plan to tax gasoline two cents, and the gasoline tax bill, passed by both branches, in the house with a one cent a gallon tax and in the senate with a tax of two cents, was sent to free conference, where the wrinkles will be smoothed out.

The inheritance tax bill also reached the house last night, and its return trip to the house, having passed the senate with amendments to the original bill. The house, however, rejected the amendments and sent it to free conference also. One of the senate amendments would cut out the retroactive clause.

The senate finance committee last night reported the income tax bill back to the senate, with a divided report, the majority report favoring no changes in the bill except the elimination of the tax on income of insurance companies, the minority report favoring a cut of the taxes fifty per cent. The majority of the committee would cut this in half.

The luxuries tax bill is yet to receive consideration at the hands of the house. The hydro-electric power tax bill and the movie tax bill are yet with the finance committee of the senate, as is also the business license tax bill.

The house last night sent to the senate by a vote of 91 to 4, after a lengthy and earnest debate, the resolution by Representative Sapp to amend the constitution so as to allow the general assembly to classify property for taxation. The amendment, if carried, would allow the taxing of some property at a higher levy than certain other classes of property, due to the varying ability of properties to stand taxation.

Intelligent Cotton Marketing

Co-operative Marketing Plan Growing in Strength in All Sections of State

Columbia, Feb. 8.—Members of the general assembly who grow cotton are signing the cotton co-operative marketing contract, several having already affixed their signatures while others are expected to sign this week, according to R. C. Hamer, chairman of the campaign committee of the South Carolina Cotton Growers' Co-operative association.

Among those who have already signed are Senators P. L. Bethea, of Dillon; George K. Laney, of Chesterfield, and F. C. Robinson, of McCormick, and Representative Clarence J. Jackson, and R. B. Belser, of Sumter county; John W. McKay, of Dillon county; L. R. Windham, and Julius S. McInnes, of Darlington county, and J. H. Mabrey, and F. Gentry Harris, of Spartanburg.

Senators P. L. Bethea, of Dillon, A. M. Kennedy, of Barnwell and T. H. Luttrell, of Cherokee are members of the organization committee. Bethea is also chairman for Dillon county. R. B. Laney, of Cheraw, brother of Senator Laney, is also a member of the organization committee.

According to Senator Bethea the sentiment for co-operative marketing is spreading in the Pee Dee section very rapidly. "The people are talking co-operative marketing everywhere and it appears to be the dominant idea of the day," he said. "The farmers in my section are for it because it leads to a direct, definite goal. It is the most sensible thing that we have ever undertaken and I believe is going to change conditions that have existed for years. The farmers will market his cotton intelligently and will be able to get a living wage for it as a result of the organization of a co-operative marketing association in each state. Instead of each cotton grower selling his cotton in competition with his brother grower, we are all going to sell co-operatively, which means that instead of a great portion of the crop being dumped on the market each fall at whatever price might be offered, we will sell as the demand arises and at a price which will net us a reasonable profit."

Lost on Way To Bimini

Miami, Feb. 8.—Fears are entertained that a party of three men in an open boat between Miami and Bimini are lost. Search is being made by airplane.

Labor Riot in Ohio

Yorkville, Ohio, Feb. 8.—At least one man was killed and a number injured in a fight at the Wheeling Steel plant when strikers fought with men imported to run the mills. Elmer Cost, a union picket, was shot to death.

Would Postpone Meet

London, Feb. 8.—According to the Westminster Gazette the British Government has received a note from the French government making strong representations that the Geneva conference should be postponed three months.

Five Will Be Tried For Murder at Court of General Sessions Which Convenes on February 13th

Only seven carried over cases are to come up for trial during the spring session of the court of general sessions which convenes in Sumter at 10 o'clock Monday morning, February 13. His Honor, Judge S. W. G. Shipp, of Florence, will preside. According to a statement made by Solicitor Frank A. McLeod, this docket is in a better condition for presentation to the court, at this time than at any previous time since he has been solicitor. The docket is in fine shape and there is no reason why good progress will not be made during this session of the court.

Of the seven cases which have been brought over from previous trials, five of that number are indictments for murder, one is a forgery case one a larceny of live stock case and one remaining case is for non-support.

The cases are: Ranzie Perry, colored, charged with murder. The negro is now in jail awaiting his trial. He is alleged to have killed his father and was tried for the crime together with his mother at which time his mother was acquitted and the negro Perry given a life sentence. The case was appealed to the supreme court and granted a new trial. The second trial of this case resulted in a mistrial.

The case which will probably be taken up first during this term is the Edgar Bradley case. Bradley is tried for the murder of W. F. Outlaw, who was shot by Bradley on Christmas day of the year 1920. The first trial of this case resulted in a mistrial. For the state, Solicitor F. A. McLeod, and Attorney Dennis of Bishopville, assisting. Counsel for the defense, Tatam & Wood and M. L. Smith.

Source Brown, colored, is to be tried for murder.

Tommie Robinson and John Robinson, colored, are to be tried together on a murder charge. The murder having taken place at a negro hot supper.

R. R. Boykin is to be tried for the non-support of his wife.

Robert Lane, negro, is to face the charge of larceny of live stock. Lane is alleged to have stolen hogs from Mr. Herman Myers.

Preston Maples, colored, is to be tried for forgery.

The complete list of cases to be tried for the first time during this court session will be published later.

"Bad Check" Bill May Be Passed

House of Representatives Send It to Third Reading With Hopes It Will Soon Be Before Senate

Columbia, Feb. 8.—The house of representatives today, by a vote of 75 to 24 refused to kill the "bad check" bill and sent it to third reading well on its way to the senate. The bill introduced by Representative Barnett of Columbia, and Representative Sheppard, of Edgefield, would make the utterance of a bad check prima facie evidence of intent to fraud.

The bill was amended so as not to apply to checks given in settlement of old accounts. Representative Barnett opened the debate on the bill by explaining its purpose and urging its enactment, to put a stop to the prevalence of giving bad checks. Representatives Bryson, Sheppard and Sapp spoke in favor of the bill, while Representatives Hanahan, Buckingham and Hilliard fought it hard.